Mr. Tony Summers
P.O.Box 2540
Manassas, Va. 22110

9/23/88

Dear Tony,

Reur 9/2, thanks. I think the particular exploitation I was concerned about may have died the natural death it deserved. I've heard nothing more about it from my source, who was informed about their efforts to sell their fantasy here and ~~were~~ their seeking additional funding for it. Other shows in the works will be bad in other and differing ways. Some, I think, will be pretty good, particularly Nigel Turner's. On balance, I think most will be disgraceful.

I got the enclosed FBI records a couple of days ago and I'll be writing them about these records and others remaining withheld. I plan, in doing this, to note what the FBI omitted from what it said and I ll suggest that those missing records can be found with little difficulty. In doing this I'll provide further explanations and while perhaps much, having to do with my past that the FBI regards as "nefarious," some will address the omissions and possible motive in omission.

Although some of the FBI language in the enclosures describes the Falange as "subversive," the Hoover FBI was nonetheless anxious to protect it from Chase's book.

I was Click's Washington correspondent then. It was owned by the Annenbergs. Moe, the founding stinker, was in jail and Walter, the same guy who just sold TV Guide to Murdoch, was more or less running the publishing empire. It ~~at~~ then was based on The Philadelphia Enquirer.

Click was the third largest of the picture magazines, ~~neging~~ after Life and Look, and it actually made money without seeking advertising. Great patriot that he was, Walter folded it, under pressure of Chicago banks that were, if you remember the gang, America Firsters. (More or less against doing anything about Hitler et al.) The scarce newsprint was used, as I now recall, to start Seventeen. Those banks held the Annenberg debt. Moe introduced gangsters to Chicago when he was I think circulation manager of one of the dailies.

I was friends with Jim McInerney when he was an FBI agent and I was borrowed from the Senate by the Department to help on the then significant prosecution of the "Bloody Harlan" coal operators. For a period of time George McNulty was counsel formthe Senate committee for which I worked.

George Messersmith

Some of what is missing, so you'll know prior to getting what I'll write, is that our then ambassador to Cuba, who rose high in State, was associating with known Nazis who are in the pictures. Also involved as associating with and being pro-Nazi was the family of the then largest Cuban paper, Diario de la Marina. I think the name was Rivero or Rivera. I tell you this so you can better evaluate how seriously the FBI was concerned about Nazi infiltration in the U.S. and this hemisphere and about Nazi sympathizers high up in our government.

I've been presssing, from time to time, for the Click info and other info on or about me, since 1975, and the FBI lies with consistency. It several times told me it had no other Click info and when I keep after them they find another dribble. It is, though, odd that they have yet to come up withwhat I'm sure they have, my exposes of Nazi cartels. (This appears to be what inspired the bamks to pressure Annemberg.) I took all I got to DJ and, if I may confess the "nefarious," I was what then was called an unregistered British agent, so I also took everything to two economic warfare agents, part of a group who had a house just south of Mass. Ave near the embassy, name Crowe and Westrupp. I'm sure that if they had the personal interest, they could do nothing about the sordid Imperial Chemicals stuff I gave them. Costly photostats in those days before xeroxing.

Hope your work is going well. We are OK, thanks. Best,

Harold

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nendon
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Tour Room
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

11:30 a.m.
[redacted]

September 27, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/25/88 BY SP7MALHRC 280.521

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. H. M. KIMBALL

At the above mentioned time I received a telephone call from Mr. James McInerney of the Criminal Division of the Department. He advised that under date of August 9, 1941, a memorandum had been submitted to the Bureau by Assistant Attorney General Berge entitled "Alleged Nazi-Falangist Activities", the same containing information regarding alleged activities in Cuba. Mr. McInerney believes that there were transmitted with this memorandum photographs secured from Click Magazine, in one of which there was a picture of a woman and a man, the woman being Baroness Lisette von Kapri. He said copies of these photographs had not been retained by the Department.

Mr. McInerney stated that by memorandum of August 26, 1941, regarding Baroness Lisette von Kapri, the Bureau had requested Assistant Attorney General Berge to advise whether the Department had any information to show any connection between Baroness von Kapri and one Otto Weh. This memorandum also transmitted to the Department copies of twenty-three reports of the [redacted] investigation.

Mr. McInerney desired to be telephonically advised whether with Mr. Berge's memorandum of August 9, 1941, there had been a photograph of Baroness von Kapri and a man, since, if that were true, Mr. McInerney could then write the Bureau a reply to its memorandum of August 26, 1941, to the effect that the man in the picture of von Kapri is said by Click Magazine to be Otto Weh.

All b7C

Subsequently I did telephone Mr. McInerney about this matter and as a result Mr. L. L. Lightcap of the Criminal Division of the Department called at my office on September 29, 1941, and examined the photographs in question (our file 64-1200-A-18). Among these photographs is a page from Click Magazine entitled "Axis Fifth Column in Cuba", wherein appears a picture of Baroness von Kapri and a Mr. Persico. It is noted that in the photostatic copy of the magazine page which we have the features of the Baroness are not discernible although Mr. Lightcap states that in the original page from the magazine which is in the possession of the Department one can recognize her from the picture.

COPIES DESTROYED
213 AUG 24 1970

65-4196-49X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 8 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Referring to an original photograph taken by Martin Harris of a woman in an aviatrix cap, carrying a parachute, and a man in white slacks and in his shirt sleeves, both of whom have apparently just left a door under a sign "Charter Service, Frank Steinman, Student and Instrument Instructions, Airplanes for Rent", Mr. Lightcap remarked that this picture was apparently taken at Roosevelt Field, New York City. Then there is an enlargement of a man in the picture, which is also stamped on the back "Photograph by Martin Harris". Mr. Lightcap advised that [redacted] and Mr. Weisberg of Click Magazine claim that this man in these two pictures, that is the one in the white slacks, is Otto Weh. Mr. Lightcap states that furthermore, it is claimed that Weh had recently appeared at Roosevelt Field, New York, and accordingly, the contention of the Click Magazine representatives may be correct. Mr. Lightcap said he was going to dictate a reply along these lines to Bureau memorandum of August 26, 1941, in the [redacted] matter, our file 65-4196.

b7C
b7D

b7C

It is suggested that Mr. [redacted] the supervisor handling this matter, review the same to determine whether we have available known photographs of Baroness von Kapri and Otto Weh as well as descriptive data concerning these two individuals in order that if such additional photographs are present, they may be compared with those taken by Martin Harris.

Respectfully,

M. C. Spear

M. C. Spear

[redacted] b7C

January 20, 1942

THE DIRECTOR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/28/88 BY SP MacHtic
280,521

BACKGROUND

The January-February, 1942, issue of Click magazine contained an article and pictures entitled "The Real Story of Hitler in Chile". As was reflected in my memorandum dated December 23, 1941, the pictures appearing in the Click magazine, together with other pictures and material, were received by the Bureau by reference from Mr. George A. McNulty of the Department of Justice on September 19, 1941 and were furnished to interested agencies at that time.

DETAILS

b7D

[redacted] A summary of information on [redacted] taken from the files, is attached herewith.

b7C

ACTION TAKEN

b7D

[redacted] is being requested to furnish complete details regarding this matter and to furnish full information on the activities of [redacted]

b7C

Respectfully,

Enclosure

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

100-73921-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 3 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

RECEIVED

[redacted] b7C
6/5/43

RECORDED 100-153806-9

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

280,521
266882
DECLASSIFIED BY SLG Bjalla
ON 4-19-88
7/21/88

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller
Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
Department of Commerce Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

For your information and such consideration as you deem appropriate, the following data are set forth:

b7D [redacted]

Advice has been received indicating that in this publication the author will endeavor to establish that the Catholic Church is a tool of the Axis and will further intimate that the Catholics in this country, as well as those in other Central and South American countries, should be looked upon with suspicion and disdain in so far as their nationalistic sentiments and loyalty are concerned.

A review of the information presently available reflects that Chase was the editor of the magazine "Click" and also one of the editors of the magazine "Friday," [redacted] It is known that during the fall of 1942 Chase visited Puerto Rico, Cuba, and other localities in that vicinity, for the purpose of securing information relative to the Spanish Falange and kindred groups.

b7D

[redacted] b7D

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
McGuire
Mumford
Piper
Quinn Tamm
Nease
s Gandy

MAILED 2
JUN 9 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
JUN 9 12 29 PM '43

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller

2.

[redacted] b7D

It has been suggested that the dissemination of this book may have a deleterious effect upon the morale of the members of the Spanish Colony in the United States and that it may have serious effects upon Spain's position with respect to the present conflict, inasmuch as it is said to be designed to bring about a state of war between the United States and the present Franco regime.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[redacted] b7C

100-153806-9

RECORDED

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP7 MacHie
ON 4-19-88
266,880
880,521

Dear Mr. Berle:

For your information and such consideration as you deem appropriate, the following data are set forth:

b7D [redacted]

Advice has been received indicating that in this publication the author will endeavor to establish that the Catholic Church is a tool of the Axis and will further intimate that the Catholics in this country, as well as those in other Central and South American countries, should be looked upon with suspicion and disdain in so far as their nationalistic sentiments and loyalty are concerned.

A review of the information presently available reflects that Chase was the editor of the magazine "Click" and also one of the editors of the magazine "Friday," [redacted] b7D It is known that during the fall of 1942 Chase visited Puerto Rico, Cuba, and other localities in that vicinity, for the purpose of securing information relative to the Spanish Falange and kindred groups.

[redacted] b7D

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
JUN 9 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED JUN 9 12 PM '43 F B

[redacted] b7D

It has been suggested that the dissemination of this book may have a deleterious effect upon the morale of the members of the Spanish Colony in the United States and that it may have serious effects upon Spain's position with respect to the present conflict, inasmuch as it is said to be designed to bring about a state of war between the United States and the present Franco regime.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lapham
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

July 21, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

7/21/88

Classified by SEC/DEC
Declassify on: OADR
280.52

b7C [redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: [redacted]

The purpose of this memorandum is to furnish comments upon a review of Chase's book, "Falange: The Axis Secret Army in the Americas," recently released by G. P. Putnam's Sons.

[redacted]

BACKGROUND

As you will recall from my memorandum to you of June 5, 1943, Chase, a journalist who resides in New York City, visited Puerto Rico, Cuba, and other Caribbean localities in the fall of 1942 for the purpose of gathering information relative to the Spanish Falange and kindred subversive groups, both in the United States and territories visited by him. Chase was editor of the magazine "Click" and one of the editors of the magazine "Friday," [redacted]

DETAILS

A review of the contents of "Falange," so far as the SIS Field of operation is concerned, fails to reveal any information of value gathered by Chase which is not previously in the possession of the Bureau. For the most part it may be said that the comments of Chase are colored with sensationalism, are in a great many instances distorted, and on numerous instances inaccurate. The book is full of conjectures and speculations and erroneous in many minor details. Many of Chase's premises apparently are of a nature that substantiation or confirmation is difficult or impossible, and represent perhaps flights of his fancy or his own conclusions reached after setting forth incomplete sets of facts. Apparently much of Chase's material was received by word of mouth, resulting in inaccuracy as to names and places, phonetic spellings, and evidently have been distorted after passing through various hands.

b1 [redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-153806-72

COPIES DESTROYED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

b1

[redacted] It may be said that Chase's principal sources of information are Communist informants, Spanish Republican sources evidently in the United States and Caribbean territorial possessions, newspapers, and the Public Library at San Juan.

b7C

[redacted] A further review of the book as regards the Spanish Falange in Colombia, Chile, Panama, and other SIS Fields, indicates, as above, that Chase's information likewise does not reflect any material not previously investigated by the Bureau.

Attached hereto is a letter dated July 15, 1943, from [redacted] in which [redacted] requests an appraisal of Chase's book in the interest of "La Prensa's" readers. Also, there is attached a memorandum of Mr. J. K. Mumford for Mr. Ladd, dated July 19, 1943, concerning a call of Mr. Ray Whearty of the Special War Policies Unit of the Department regarding a similar request from the newspaper "La Prensa" made of the Attorney General for an appraisal of the book, and a similar letter from [redacted] to the Attorney General requesting an appraisal, which letter was referred to us for handling.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that no appraisal be given to "La Prensa" concerning the publication of Chase, and in that connection there is attached hereto a suggested letter of reply to [redacted] acknowledging receipt of both above referred to letters.

With further regard to the book itself, a more complete review is being made in the SIS Division for the purpose of pointing out in detail all inaccuracies and checking more closely on the merits and demerits of this publication.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Attachments

CONFIDENTIAL

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
February 22, 1944

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/21/88 BY SP2 ... 266882 7/25/88 SP MacHec 280,521

[redacted] b7C
100-153806-
~~61-10561-49-169~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: [redacted] b7C

b7C | b7D In the attached memorandum from the Criminal Division it is stated that the Department has been confidentially informed [redacted] The Criminal Division requests therein that an investigation be made to ascertain if [redacted] still has the material, and, if so, detailed information concerning its content. b7C

It is my opinion that the Department's request should not be complied with inasmuch as the proposed action of the Bureau would serve no purpose as far as the obtainment of factual information regarding the Falange is concerned and because the actualization of such a request would more than likely subject the Bureau to unwarranted criticism. This opinion is predicated upon the following facts:

b7C
b7D

(1) [redacted]

(Chase was editor of the magazine "Click" and of the magazine "Friday". [redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED

(2) [redacted]

100-153806-41
F B I
32 FEB 28 1944

(3) [redacted]

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

COPIES DESTROYED
153 JUL 6 1960

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 61-10561-49-170